

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A reproducing apparatus for reproducing data of which a digital signal, to which a fixed value is added at a predetermined timing to blocks of main data, is compressed and encrypted from a record medium, comprising:

decrypting means for decrypting the compressed and encrypted digital signal;

separating means for separating the fixed value and the compressed data from the digital signal that are decrypted by said decrypting means;

decompressing means for decompressing the compressed main data separated by said separating means;

memory means for pre-storing a fixed value;

comparing means for comparing the fixed value separated by said separating means with the fixed value stored in said memory means; and

controlling means for permitting and prohibiting the decompressing process of said decompressing means for the main data decompressed by said decompressing means corresponding to the compared result of said comparing means.

16. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the record medium is attachable/detachable to/from the reproducing apparatus.

17. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the record medium is a non-volatile memory.

18. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein said memory means stores a plurality of fixed values that vary corresponding to channels,

wherein the plurality of fixed values stored in said memory means are successively compared with the fixed value separated from said separating means so as to identify a channel.

19. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein said memory means stores a plurality of fixed values that vary corresponding to compression rates,

wherein the plurality of fixed values stored in said memory means are successively compared with the fixed value separated from said separating means so as to identify a compression rate.

20. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the decompressing process is permitted for the compressed main data corresponding to the compared result in such a manner that a mute process is performed for the decompressed main data.

21. (Currently Amended) A reproducing method for reproducing data ~~to~~ no change of which a digital signal, to which a fixed value is added at a predetermined

timing to blocks of main data, is compressed and encrypted from a record medium,
comprising the steps of:

- decrypting the compressed and encrypted digital signal;
- separating the fixed value and the compressed data from the digital signal that are decrypted;
- decompressing the compressed main data that is separated;
- comparing the separated fixed value with the fixed value that is stored; and
- permitting and prohibiting the decompressing process of comparing step for the main data that is decompressed corresponding to the compared result of comparing step.

22. (Original) The reproducing method as set forth in claim 21,
wherein the record medium is attachable/detachable to/from a reproducing apparatus.

23. (Original) The reproducing method as set forth in claim 21,
wherein the record medium is a non-volatile memory.

24. (Original) The reproducing method as set forth in claim 21,
wherein a plurality of fixed values that vary corresponding to channels are pre-stored, and
wherein the plurality of fixed values that are pre-stored are successively compared with the fixed value separated at separating step so as to identify a channel.

25. (Original) The reproducing method as set forth in claim 21,
wherein a plurality of fixed values that vary corresponding to compression rates
are pre-stored, and
wherein the plurality of fixed values that are pre-stored are successively
compared with the fixed value separated at separating step so as to identify a
compression rate.

26. (Original) The reproducing method as set forth in claim 21,
wherein the decompressing process is permitted for the compressed main data
corresponding to the compared result in such a manner that a mute process is
performed for the decompressed main data.